

MAR 08 2019

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE STATE OF HAWAII TO PLACE AN EMPHASIS ON STATEWIDE
DRUG AND ALCOHOL TREATMENT PROGRAMS.

WHEREAS, drug and alcohol abuse is a public health issue;
and

WHEREAS, drug and alcohol abuse issues intersect with many
other issues in the community including homelessness, violence
in the home, incarceration, property crime, foster care,
judiciary costs, health care, employment, and after-school
programs; and

WHEREAS, a report published in 2015 by the Substance Abuse
and Mental Health Services Administration revealed that in
Hawaii, about seventy-eight thousand individuals aged twelve
years or older per year in 2013 to 2014 were dependent on or
abused alcohol during the year prior to being surveyed, and
about twenty-six thousand individuals aged twelve years or older
per year in 2013 to 2014 were dependent on or abused illicit
drugs in the year prior to being surveyed; and

WHEREAS, according to the same report, among individuals
aged twelve years or older with alcohol dependence or abuse,
about 7.5 percent per year from 2010 to 2014 received treatment
for their alcohol use, 92.5 percent did not; and

WHEREAS, the same report also revealed that, among
individuals aged twelve or older with illicit drug dependence or
abuse, about 14.4 percent per year from 2010 to 2014 received
treatment for their illicit drug use, 85.6 percent did not; and

WHEREAS, according to a later report published in 2017 by
the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration,
as of a single-day count in 2015 in Hawaii, 5,768 individuals
were enrolled in substance use treatment, an increase from 4,464
individuals in 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division (ADAD) of the
Department of Health reported that state and federal funds



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1 expended for ADAD funded treatment services decreased from about
2 \$18,000,000 in fiscal year 2015 to about \$16,000,000 in fiscal
3 year 2017 and about half of the total funds were spent on
4 services for Native Hawaiians; and
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6 WHEREAS, in 2012 and years prior, many drug and alcohol
7 treatment centers in Hawaii closed due to funding cutbacks,
8 leaving a significant number of people unable to receive
9 affordable drug and alcohol treatment; and
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11 WHEREAS, extensive studies have shown that drug and alcohol
12 treatment saves \$4 in health care costs for every \$1 spent for
13 treatment; now, therefore,
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15 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
16 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, that the State
17 is urged to place an emphasis on statewide drug and alcohol
18 treatment programs; and
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
21 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director of Health,
22 and Director of Human Services.
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OFFERED BY:

